

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EB:JLKATZ:JO

APPROVED BY EB:JLKATZ

S/S - RPERITO

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O 170225Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 230050 TOSEC 270256

STADIS//////////

EXDIS, FOR LORD FROM EB - KATZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: PRESS BACKGROUNDER ON LOS CONFERENCE

1. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SEEKING RECONSIDERATION OF  
SECRETARY'S REQUEST THAT I BACKGROUND PRESS IN WASHINGTON  
ON CONCLUSION LOS CONFERENCE. I BELIEVE THIS IS  
INADVISABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

--LEARSON IS GIVING ON THE RECORD PRESS CONFERENC- IN NEW  
YORK; SIMULTANEOUS BACKGROUNDER HERE RISKS NUANCED  
DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH.

--AS YOU WILL RECALL FROM BACKGROUNDER YOU AND I GAVE HERE  
IN APRIL, STATE DEPARTMENT PRESS CORPS LARGELY IGNORANT  
OF LOS NEGOTIATIONS AND WILL THUS BE INCLINED SEEK SPECIAL  
ANGLES RATHER THAN TO ACCEPT GLOSS WE SEEK PUT ON EVENT.

2. IN CONSIDERING ADVISABILITY PRESS BACKGROUNDER YO  
SHOULD BE AWARE THAT AT CONGRESSIONAL APPEARANCE THIS  
MORNING, KLEPPE (WITH RATINER AT HIS SIDE) AGREED HELP  
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CHAIRMAN BREAUX OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEANOGRAPHY DRAFT

LEGISLATION FOR UNILATERAL EXPLOITATION OF DEEP SEABEDS. HE OBSERVED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT PRESENT LOS CONFERENCE HAD PRODUCED NO REAL RESULTS AND THAT LDCS HAD ADOPTED AN APPROACH WHICH REJECTS WHAT ACCOMPLISHED AT LAST SESSION. WHILE PRESS BACKGROUNDER WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COUNTERACT EFFECT OF KLEPPE'S REMARKS, IT COULD ALSO FOCUS PRESS ATTENTION ON DISAGREEMENT WITHIN ADMINISTRATION.

3. SHOULD SECRETARY BELIEVE BACKGROUNDER HERE DESIRABLE, I WILL, OF COURSE, SEEK TO MINIMIZE POSSIBILITY ANY DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH WITH LEARSON BY REVIEWING Q'S AND A'S WITH HIM. I WILL ALSO SEEK TO MINIMIZE KLEPPE'S REMARKS BY NOTING HIS STATEMENT THAT HE WAS EXPRESSING PERSONAL VIEWS TO WHICH I WOULD ADD OPINION THAT REMARKS SEEM TO BE COLORED PRIMARILY BY THE RHETORIC OF THE EARLIER PART OF THE CONFERENCE RATHER THAN THE MORE QUIET DIPLOMACY WHICH WORKED IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S VISIT NEW YORK.

4. WHETHER OR NOT PRESS BACKGROUNDER HELD WASHINGTON, I RECOMMEND SECRETARY'S STATEMENT BE ISSUED BOTH WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK. PLEASE ADVISE BY OPENING BUSINESS FRIDAY. HABIB

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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